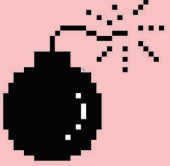


# BAUMS AWAY


BY MARGARET BAUM

Opinion see p.5



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**Bassnectar wows** see p.6



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**Tuesday**  
**May 8, 2012**  
**Volume 138, Issue 51**

**SPARTAN DAILY**

SpartanDaily.com

# Church, SJSU advocate for good health

Nutrition professor and students join First Lady’s project against obesity

by Boris Slager  
Staff Writer

To combat childhood obesity, Marjorie Freedman made a video in collaboration with Most Holy Trinity Church for Michelle Obama’s “Let’s Move!” project.

“A child who is obese will be obese their whole life, and that leads to health complications later in life,” said Freedman, an associate professor in nutrition.

The project has been going on since April, according to Freedman.

The two grand prize winners for the Let’s Move initiative are based off of a popularity vote and the judge’s vote, and they get to meet Michelle Obama at the White House.

However, she said she and her students are not just doing this for the prize — they are also doing it to get students involved in fighting childhood obesity.

“It was not about the prize, and it was more about showing the world our experiences in the community,” said Nazarina Larida, a senior nutrition major.

Larida said she wants to do this kind of work after she graduates.

She said that she and her sister, Odezza Larida, both volunteer with the church.

“We all come together, and what we learned in class comes out in the field,” Larida said.

She then said that the video experience was great for her as well as her sister.

The mission statement of the project is “Rethink your drink.”

The group wants children to drink water instead of sugary beverages like soda or Gatorade.

Freedman said soda is an empty calorie beverage, and because of its high sugar content can lead to diabetes.

SEE **NUTRITION** PAGE 3



Photo Illustration by Nick Rivelli and Leo Postovoit / Spartan Daily

# Secret garden in Duncan Hall houses exotic greenery

by Cynthia Ly  
Copy Editor

They have been found on every continent, even dotting the endless sands of the Africa’s Namib Desert.

They can take any shape – furls and spikes and pitchers – and play tricks with your eyes and taste buds.

They are the plants of SJSU’s greenhouse.

Located on the seventh floor of Duncan Hall is the Department of Biological Sciences’ secret garden: A greenhouse made up of a lath house, three climate-controlled (cold, warm and tropical) houses and open areas that hold two ponds filled with pale-green lily pads and mosquito fish.

“There’s all kinds of great textures in plants,” said Rachel Hussey, while pointing out a bear’s paw fern in the tropical house.

Hussey, a senior biological sciences major, said she has been helping take care of the greenhouse as a student assistant for three years.

The SJSU greenhouse has been around since 1971, said Stanley Vaughn, instructional and research facilities manager for the College of Science.

## ROOTED

Vaughn pulls open a drawer that contains blueprints — light brown and slightly crinkly like a dry leaf.

Despite the greenhouse being built according to the original plans, the tropical house was used as an insectary to breed insects for several years in the early ’70s because of strong demand and interest in the entomology department, said Vaughn, who has been at SJSU for more than 30 years.

“In the 70s, there was a great deal more emphasis on organismal biology (and) field work,” he said.

“Now there is more of a demand for more bench science (such as molecular and microbiology).”

For instructors who use the plants, botany technician Jennifer Cross said the greenhouse staff tries to have plants that cover the range of taxonomies that are studied in courses at SJSU.

## WILD SIDE

“It’s a constant battle,” Hussey said about working in the greenhouse. “Things are growing out of their pots and then there are insects that come in and munch on your plants.”

Instead of using harsh chemicals, Cross said she practices integrated pest management.

IPM combines different methods of pest control with the goal of minimizing negative effects on humans, plants and the environment, according to the

SEE **GARDEN** PAGE 2

## CORRECTION

Mohammad Qayoumi, Jeffrey Benson and Brandon Nguyn’s names were misspelled in various stories within yesterday’s issue of the Spartan Daily. The Spartan Daily regrets the errors.

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# Forensics Team displays talents

by David Wong  
Staff Writer

SJSU’s award-winning speech and debate team will put on its forensics showcase at 5 p.m. today in Engineering Room 189.

According to Tina Lim, assistant director of forensics in communication studies and the co-coach of the team, the reason for the showcase is to “bring awareness to the forensics team,” by displaying its award-winning performances at the Northern California Forensics Association regional championships, where the novice and junior team won, according to Genelle Austin-Lett, director of forensics in communication studies and the team coach.

“Basically everybody on the team has been quite successful this year. We had about five members qualify for the (International Forensic Association Speech and Debate Tournament) in Rome, Italy this year,” said senior English major Katrina Swanson. “We’ve had two teams

that were one and two in debate in a tournament this year in New Mexico.”

Besides increasing awareness, the showcase is meant to “celebrate and show appreciation for the students, staff, faculty, administration, family and friends that have supported the forensics team,” according to Lim.

“Forensics offers an opportunity for students to learn how to present themselves,” said junior communication studies major Matt Zweier. “I joined the team because I wanted to improve my skills in speaking and organize my thoughts.”

Austin-Lett said the forensics team had its best season ever.

“They are amazing competitors with incredible talent,” Austin-Lett said. “We have a comfortable group dynamic where this team blends wit, wisdom, character and grace easily.”

In parliamentary debate the teams debate a new topic for six preliminary

SEE **DEBATE** PAGE 3

## CAMPUS IMAGE



Fourth-year behavioral science major Elizabeth Ramos gets 30 seconds to smash an old Volkswagen with a baseball bat for a Beta-Week fraternity fundraiser in front of the A.S. House yesterday.  
Photo by Jasper Rubenstein / Spartan Daily





Barrel Cacti are native to Southern California deserts. These specimens are more than 50 years old and cannot be moved without being damaged. (LP)



Other California cacti are buried amongst succulents in the Garden. They tend to be drought tolerant. (LP)



Strawberry plants grow well in California's climate. More than 1.2 million tons of strawberries are grown in the U.S. annually. (NR)



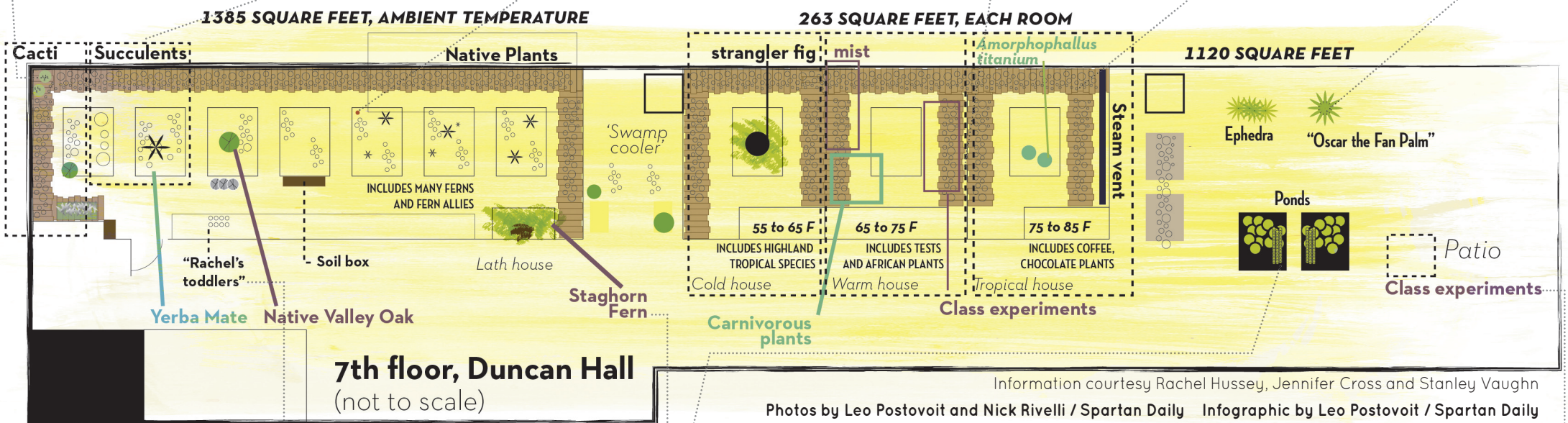
Lithops, or living stones, remain mostly beneath the surface of the dirt, allowing light to radiate into the plant through a slit in the top. The plant is commonly found in Southern Africa. (NR)



Fern and fern allies are two popular types of plants all across the garden. (NR)



"Oscar" is a Mexican Fan Palm, *Washingtonia robusta*, native to Mexico. Fan Palms are very common in California. (LP)



Student assistant Rachel Hussey has a section in the garden to grow new shoots. (LP)



This Staghorn Fern grows as an epiphyte, a plant that grows upon another plant. (LP)



The outdoor ponds are home to mosquito-eating insects and lillies. (NR)



The garden provides a controlled environment for student experiments as well as an outdoor area. Each room provides a different biome to work in. (LP)



# GARDEN: Greenhouse is home to more than 150 species

FROM PAGE 1

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency website.

Cross said ladybugs, which eat pests such as mealybugs and cottony cushion scales that gorge themselves on plant sap, and a type of marigold, a flower which produces a smell that keeps pests away, have been used to protect the collection.

The greenhouse is used for mostly instructional purposes, such as course demonstrations and experiments by graduate students, she said.

## BRANCHING OUT

The lath house, where various species of cacti, succulents and ferns bathe in the sunlight, is a protected outdoor growing environment, Cross said.

She estimates that about 150 different species are in the lath house alone and said the diversity of the plants has increased since she began working for the university six years ago.

Some exotic plants in the greenhouse include a cacao tree, two giant corpse flowers and a miracle fruit tree.

"(Miracle fruits) do something to your taste buds," Hussey said. "So if you eat the fruit and then you eat something sour, you won't taste (the sourness)."

The growth in variety of plants is not just within the

**"(Miracle fruits) do something to your taste buds. So if you eat the fruit and then you eat something sour, you won't taste (the sourness)."**

- Rachel Hussey, senior biological sciences major

greenhouse, but encompasses the campus community and other schools.

SJSU's Botany club and Growing Roots of Wellness club have collaborated with the greenhouse staff to grow and house plants, Cross said.

"Some of (the greenhouse's plants) get destined for moving down to the botany garden downstairs, which is almost exclusively native," said Luis Bonachea, a lecturer

for the biological sciences department.

Cross said SJSU has received plants from various universities, including UC Davis, CSU Fullerton and Humboldt State University.

SJSU has received several carnivorous plants and seeds of the *Welwitschia mirabilis* plant, according to greenhouse records and an email from Edward Read, CSU Fullerton's greenhouse manager.

The seeds have grown into two samples in the warm house and, according to Cross, *Welwitschia* is a gymnosperm (seed-producing plant) that has been regarded as a living fossil and can be found in Angola, Africa.

"(Welwitschia plants) are one of the oldest organisms on Earth when they're adults, so if you go out to Saharan Africa and find an adult of this species, at first it looks dead," Bonachea said. "It's not unusual for those things to be a couple of thousands of years old and still alive."

On a more local scale, he said that there is a project in progress to grow plants,

collect their seeds and share those seeds with high school teachers to do labs and teach about evolution with them.

## STILL BLOOMING

Hussey, one of three student assistants who help around the greenhouse, stated in a follow-up email that her mother influenced her interest in plants and botany.

"(My mother) was always improving our garden, and taking cuttings from her friends," Hussey stated. "I think it always amazed me how you could just cut a piece off, stick in water, then a few weeks later there would be roots."

She said she used to work for the California Department of Food and Agriculture and hopes to go into research after graduation.

Both Cross and Vaughn said building a research-grade, climate-controlled greenhouse has been discussed, but there is a lack of funding.

There are many practical applications of plants for human interests, such as agricultural, pharmaceutical and materials science, Bonachea stated in a follow-up email.

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"Plants and other producers form the base of any community," he stated. "It becomes impossible to understand why communities persist and what

their composition is like without understanding the producers. Good luck saving pandas if you can't promote the health and well-being of bamboo forests."

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# Student clothing line crawls up in popularity

by Greg Nelson  
Staff Writer

Business majors aren't the only students who can start companies, as proven by Mike Vetrone and his friends Max Gustofson and Andrew Tucker.

Vetrone, the founder of Crawl Apparel, is a senior graphic design major who was working at a screen printing shop doing design work with other lines of clothing in 2009 when he was inspired to start his own company.

"I have all the tools here. Why aren't I just doing this for myself?" Vetrone asked himself. "It just kind of went from there and it's been a lot of fun since."

Vetrone came up with the idea for the name of the line with one of his T-shirt designs that read "walk, drink, crawl" in reference to his partying days, and he took the "crawl" from that design as the name for Crawl Apparel.

Vetrone saved money over the years from his work at the screen printing shop, which helped him get the business started.

"Ever since I was in high school, I knew I wanted to do something in art," Vetrone said.

Photo classes spurred his interest in design and Photoshop where he found enjoyment in manipulating pictures.

Vetrone said working with his former band is when he learned how to begin marketing his clothing and it served as good experience for running his business.

Vetrone said he invests most of his share

of the profit back into the company because of its rapid growth.

"I have another job, so I don't really need this to support me yet," Vetrone said.

When the company started in 2009, Vetrone said he got a decent amount of sales, mostly through family, friends and some bands he knew.

"I've always been pretty social network-savvy, so I've been able to expand the business through Facebook," Vetrone said.

Crawl Apparel is sold in some stores in San Jose but is starting to expand throughout California and the nation.

Crawl Apparel's most popular products are T-shirts and tank tops, but they also sell sweaters.

"Tank tops are probably my biggest seller," Vetrone said. "During the summer they're huge."

One of his most popular products is a San Jose Sharks themed shirt, with "chomp, chomp, chomp" written on it.

He also plans to get into some less graphic and more basic style of shirts.

One of his friends and business partner is Max Gustofson, a SJSU alumnus who is currently going to school at Virginia Commonwealth University Brandcenter for his graduate degree in mass communications.

"I have always wanted to design for a clothing company, especially one that has done as successful as this one has," Gustofson stated in an email. "The designs definitely reflect things that you don't normally see in other clothing lines, which is something I ap-



Models display Crawl Apparel clothing. SJSU student Mike Vetrone started the company in 2009 with two other students. Photo courtesy of Crawl Apparel

preciate as a designer."

Andrew Tucker, a creative writing graduate student at SJSU also worked with Crawl Apparel as a freelance graphic designer.

"We've pretty much gone from selling shirts to our friends to shipping shirts to all 50 states and beyond," Tucker stated in an email. "The designs of the company have also grown with it. Every new line is better and more focused than the last."

## NUTRITION: Professor and church's video aims for D.C.

FROM PAGE 1

Angela Tirado, a leader of Food Justice for the Most Holy Trinity Church, said she understands that childhood obesity is a problem, especially for low-income families.

Larida said this makes sense because those families buy the cheapest food and not necessarily the healthiest food.

The Food Justice ministry is a new part of the church.

"We needed to make a new ministry that would teach people to eat right," Tirado said.

She said the church teaches children and adults to not only eat healthy but to cook healthy as well.

The children cook with their parents, and thus their parents learn how to cook using healthy ingredients, according to Tirado.

"The kids are the key and they are our future," Tirado said. "It works really well."

She also said that this is because sometimes parents give in to their children's wants and not necessarily what is best or healthiest for them.

The church has a pantry system that serves 1,200 to 2,000 people a week, Tirado said.

She also said that the church community has a diverse population.

"Obesity is not a quick fix, and the problem lies with kids and their eating habits as well as their lack of activity," Larida said.

Tirado agrees with Larida, and her advice is to start the process of eating healthy.

"Starting the process is the hardest part, but you need to

do it," Tirado said.

Freedman said she knows that obesity will not be fixed overnight and so she and her students got involved with fighting childhood obesity.

"We are dooming children of a generation if we don't help them," she said.

She added that there is still time to change their futures as long as the children and their parents recognize the seriousness of the issue that is childhood obesity.

## DEBATE: Team appreciates supporters

FROM PAGE 1

rounds with only 20 minutes to prepare, before advancing to the final round, according to Austin-Lett.

To display the talent and depth of the team, the showcase was thought up to exhibit a sampling of events where they have won awards, she stated.

"The showcase is to show our abilities as a team," said junior industrial engineering major Avesta Sabetian, "Once you get into the workforce these skills are very prominent."

Given a topic with two minutes to prepare, senior business major David Khedry will deliver a five-minute speech followed by a short balloon debate.

Austin-Lett said this is when four individuals will be given a prompt and instantly have one minute to make their argument.

The audience will vote off the two weakest competitors and the last two will face off, according to Austin-Lett.

"(Forensics and debate) is a great extracurricular to make you adapt to public speech and knowledge about the world," Swanson said. "You're better able to get job interviews and to write speeches, and I think it's a great life skill to be practicing."

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■ COMMENTARY

# Athletics director, upgrading facilities on front burner for SJSU

by Scott Semmler  
Sports Editor

SJSU Athletics is set to embark on a busy summer, but at least one item on the significantly lengthy “to do” list was removed last week as the Spartans officially made the move to the Mountain West Conference.

The program left the barren Western Athletic Conference and accepted an invitation to join the expanding MWC, which is one of the up-and-coming conferences in all of college athletics.

However, that “to do” list still remains large, and now with the Spartans officially joining the MWC, work officially begins once more for this program.

Two crucial items still remain on the agenda for SJSU Athletics.

The first priority for the program is a new athletic director.

Tom Bowen, former director of athletics at SJSU, recently took the same job at the University of Memphis, a program with a bigger name in a bigger conference than SJSU. Marie Tuite was named SJSU’s interim director of athletics last month.

Bowen was honored at Friday’s press conference for playing the leading role in getting SJSU to move out of the possibly deceased WAC and into the MWC.

SJSU Athletics announced in April that they plan on conducting a nationwide search for a new athletic director this summer, although Tuite and John Poch, deputy director of external operations at SJSU, are both in the running to land the job.

SJSU President Mohammad Qayoumi is said to lead the charge on finding a new director of athletics to replace Bowen, who had consistently improved SJSU’s athletics program during the 12 years he held the position.

Even without a permanent athletic director, the MWC still was interested enough in SJSU’s program to invite it to join the conference, which I am sure did not take the Spartans long to accept.

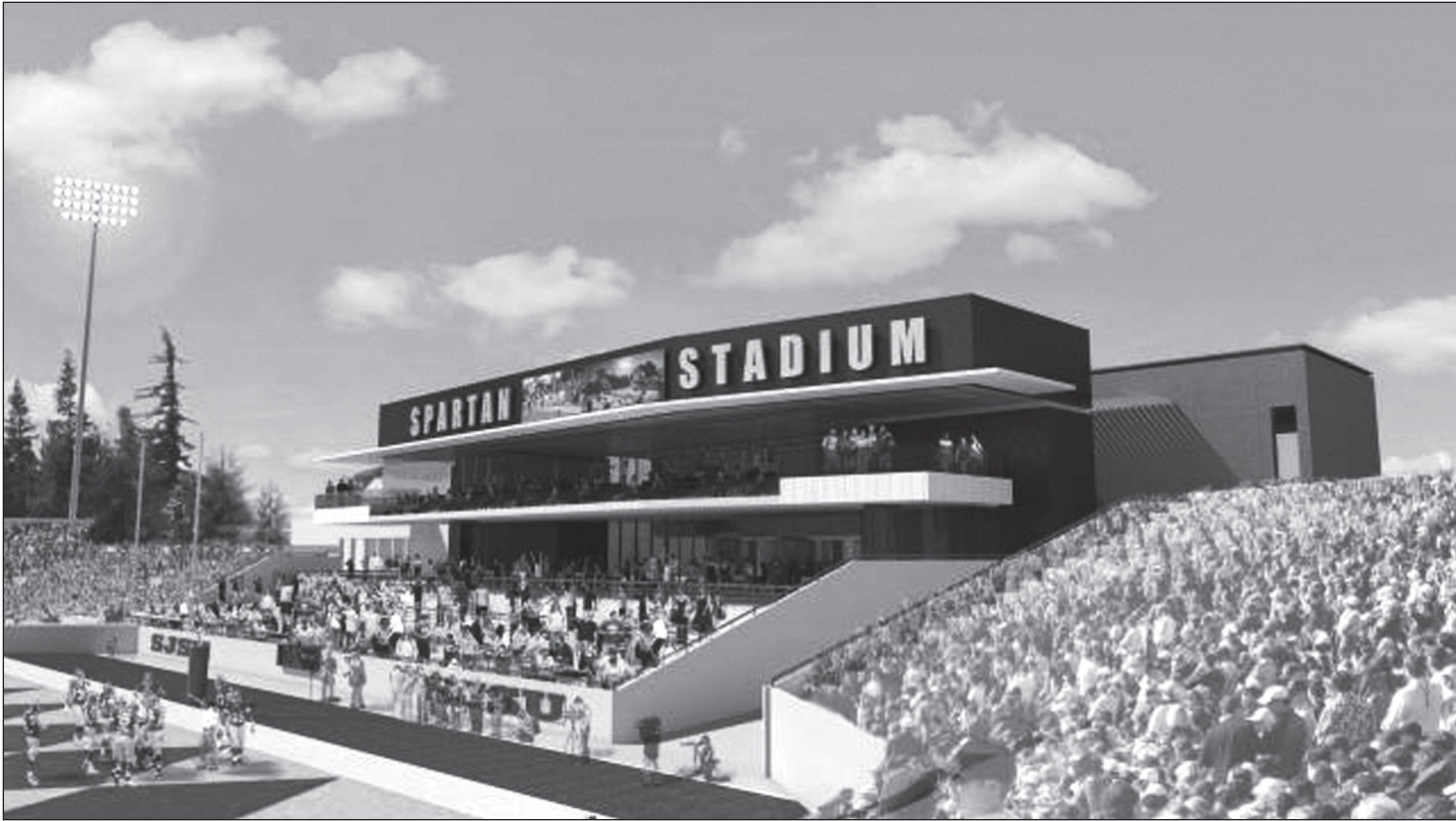
SJSU must replace Bowen with someone that shares the same commitment to excellence and progression that Bowen had, if Spartan athletics is to continue to improve every year, as has been the case recently.

The second topic on SJSU’s “to do” list may be the most crucial and has to do with the university’s athletic facilities, which have been outdated and in need of a make-over for years.

SJSU has a plan in place to build a 60,000 square-foot, two-building, state-of-the-art facility overlooking the north end zone of Spartan Stadium, which they are set to name the Dick Vermeil Spartan Football Complex and Bill Walsh Legacy Center.

SJSU Athletics revealed what the finished project would look like at Friday’s press conference, as well as the plans for the near future.

Many would insist that the MWC’s invitation to SJSU and the proposed North End Zone Project are directly related. If SJSU wanted an invitation to the MWC, it would have to upgrade its athletic facilities, which is the exact plan heading forward for this program



A rendering of the North End Zone Project featuring the Dick Vermeil Spartan Football Complex and Bill Walsh Legacy Center depicts what the finished project could look like. **Illustration courtesy of SJSU Athletics**

and probably the exact reason for the construction of the Dick Vermeil Spartan Football Complex and Bill Walsh Legacy Center.

Tuite acknowledged on Friday that there was a need for an upgrade with the basketball facilities, but nothing has been proposed as of yet.

There have been bumps in the road with the North End Zone Project. Funding is a major issue in creating the Bill Walsh Legacy Center at the moment, and Qayoumi refused to set a date for the start of construction.

The previously reported date of completion for the Bill Walsh Legacy Center was by the start of the 2013-14 football season, but Tuite was unsure as to when the construction would

officially begin, nor when the project’s completion would be.

We should know fairly soon when the official predicted completion date of the buildings will be, but it is unlikely the project will be finished by the time the Spartans start their first season in the MWC in 2013.

The fact is that SJSU’s athletic facilities are behind in the MWC, and they must catch up.

Most notably, Utah State, who also held its press conference on Friday to announce that it too was making the move to the MWC, has athletic facilities that are simply more superior than SJSU.

The Aggies’ Stan Laub Indoor Facility is a full-width indoor football field that allows Utah State to practice on either

a neutral grass or artificial turf surface. For now, the Spartans’ spring practice has been held at a grass practice field adjacent to Spartan Stadium.

Also, the Aggies recently built the Jim and Carol Laub Athletics-Academics Complex overlooking Utah State’s football stadium that seems to be very similar to what the North End Zone Project is set to become.

Tuite admitted on Friday that SJSU was behind as far as athletic facilities are concerned.

“We are unfortunately woefully behind in facilities,” she said. “I was concerned about that factor because unfortunately we are behind the other Mountain West schools, but the fact that our program is going this way really helps us carry the day.”

It is safe to say, this may be one of the most crucial summers SJSU Athletics has encountered in recent memory. SJSU needs a permanent athletic director to guide the program into the MWC, and it needs to upgrade its athletic facilities in order to put a winning team on the field.

SJSU has a strong football team that can contend in the MWC and is only getting better with head coach Mike MacIntyre at the helm. It also has several other up-and-coming teams that will do well in the MWC, such as the men’s and women’s golf teams. The program simply needs the right things to fall into the right place in order to take the next step in the success of its athletics program.

## Classifieds

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## UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

5

9

1

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9

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5

6

1

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9

7

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1

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5/8

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

Previous Puzzle Solved

SOLUTION:

2	6	1	5	3	4	9	8	7
9	4	3	7	8	1	6	2	5
8	5	7	2	9	6	1	3	4
1	7	8	9	4	5	3	6	2
6	9	5	1	2	3	4	7	8
3	2	4	6	7	8	5	9	1
7	8	6	4	5	9	2	1	3
4	3	9	8	1	2	7	5	6
5	1	2	3	6	7	8	4	9

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## Today's Crossword Puzzle

### Universal Crossword

Edited by Timothy E. Parker May 8, 2012

1 Escalator part

5 Certain dreadlocked Jamaican, briefly

10 Adult male deer

14 Nehemiah follows it

15 Island (former immigration checkpoint)

16 Melt ingredient, often

17 Balcony feature

18 Raccoon relative

19 Came down from one's high horse?

20 Display happiness, in a way

23 Cone-shaped tent

24 Increased, as prices

25 Express discontent

28 Yodelers' milieu

30 Word with "code" or "restricted"

31 A boss, occasionally CEO

33 candidate

36 Make round, as dough

40 Not merely -er

41 Simpleton

42 Tissue additive, perhaps

43 Start, as a savings account

44 "Empty hand" fighting skill, literally

46 Be head over

49 "Airtight" story

51 Providing particulars

57 Shipwreck locale

58 "Eyes" in many emoticons

59 "Puss in Boots" villain

60 Cast a creepy glance

61 Apathetic

62 Word at the top of an application

63 Whirl of water

64 Walk leisurely

65 Significant time periods

DOWN

1 Balkan Wars participant

2 Former Winter Palace resident (Var.)

3 Great Lake

4 Spacious and grand

5 "Eye of newt and toe of frog" context

6 Not with another

7 Chalkboard material

8 Balplayer Fuentes or one of the musical

9 Minor in geography?

10 By-the-book

11 Blooming bulb

12 Like a doddering old woman

13 Like some exclusive communities

21 Guy that's a doll

22 Old Toyota model

25 medium or well done

26 A son of Aphrodite

27 Attack, as with eggs

28 A bit pretentious

29 "Anna Karenina" author Tolstoy

31 Wild Huckleberry?

32 Wet-your-whistle stop fide (in bad faith)

33 Clean, as with paper towels

34 On the less breezy side, at sea

37 Let off the hook?

38 Cherry or pizza creation

39 Choir voice

43 Bad tempered

44 Bean type or shape

45 He played Tesso in "The Godfather"

46 Gazellelike

47 Administered medicine

48 Lubricated

49 Strongman's reference?

50 Not quite ready for the tooth fairy

52 Long-range warhead carrier, briefly

53 "contendere" (no contest plea)

54 Bacteria culture medium

55 la Douce (Shirley MacLaine role)

56 Alternatives to Levis

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

S	T	E	P	M	E	T	R	O	W	I	S	H
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WORD OF DIVISION By Milton J. Ruff

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# BAUMS AWAY

BY MARGARET BAUM

## Making something out of nothing





This column appears every other Tuesday

These days, students are more worried about money than ever due to budget cuts, fee increases and a downward-spiraling economy.

I am sure I am not alone in my never-ending quest to save a little money here or there.

Students need to find creative ways to save some cash.

Part of this, for me, has to do with selling items I no longer need.

I have spent most of my teenage and adult years trying to deny the fact that I am a pack rat.

Although being a pack rat seemed like a bad thing for a really long time, I have recently realized that it just means I always have items to sell.

I have spent many weekends trying to sell clothing to stores like Plato's Closet, cutting out coupons or trying to sell unwanted items on eBay.

The urge to do so is not just because times are tough right now for students, but also due to my upbringing.

As a young child, I spent a lot of time with my father hunting for treasures at garage sales, estate sales, flea markets and vintage stores.

I always felt there was something special about getting something that was new to me for a good price, even if that something was pre-owned at one time.

My father owned an antique store when I was young and spent many weekends selling items he found for more than what he paid at flea markets.

I always tagged along. Something sucked me into this lifestyle. I wanted to be part of the exchange.

There were times that I would beg my father to let me take the money from his customers.

I loved being the one getting something for items, rather than the one buying them.

Throughout my life, I would often find myself in the opposite role — that of the consumer.

Those who know me well can tell you that my closet overflows with clothes and shoes, and my room has more books, movies and cosmetics lying around than one girl should have.

I am the ultimate consumer. The problem is that I don't use half of the items I own.

Because of this, living on campus in such a small space poses a challenge.

I knew that I finally had to get rid of all of my extra stuff.

After trying to sell my things through every avenue I would normally use, I decided it was time to try something new.

It just so happened that my boyfriend's mother, Judy, was having a garage sale this past Saturday, so I decided to gather up my things and try to sell them there.

Judy has held more than a few garage sales, and she always seems to get rid of things pretty quickly. I figured it was worth a shot.

I priced my clothing at a quarter per piece. The price seemed really cheap at first, but once I started seeing the

clothes on the table disappear, I knew it was the right price.

I knew I had to clear out space in my tiny apartment and that I would be leaving with more money than I had at the beginning of the day.

I only left with \$12, but it's still more than I started with.

My boyfriend was selling his father's DVD collection for \$2 per DVD, and he ended up making more than \$150.

This weekend taught me that even if you think the items you have aren't worth much, every penny counts.

The little bit of money someone makes off items that they no longer need could be used for other things.

Even if the money is used to buy lunch, purchase a book or put a few dollars away for another time, it's worth it.

Students should take advantage of programs that allow them to get a little money back from previous purchases.

Programs that will buy back books, clothing or other items from students, even for a fraction of the original cost, can help them save some money in the long run.

# Lionel Messi: A success story to draw upon



by David Wong  
Staff Writer

Argentine forward Lionel Messi, who plays for the Football Club Barcelona, scored a hat trick against the Malaga Football Club Sunday to push his goal tally to 68 this season, according to the Catalan News Agency.

With the scoring of his 68th goal, Messi entered the record books, as he broke the previous European single season goal-scoring record of 67 by Football Club Bayern Munich forward Gerd Mueller in 1972-1973, according to goal.com.

If you did not already know, Messi is not your prototypical footballer in any sense of the word — he stands at 5-feet-7-inches and weighs a mere 148 pounds, according to Sports Illustrated.

You probably think that Messi is short for being 24.

He could have grown up even shorter.

Born in Rosario, Argentina, Messi was always undersized as a child but had the talent to succeed as a professional footballer, according to The Guardian newspaper.

While playing for his youth club team, his family learned that Messi would need to undergo a series of growth hormone treatments, according to fifa.com.

His football club could not afford to pay for these treatments, so that is when Barcelona came into the picture, according to The Telegraph newspaper.

The Catalan club agreed to pay for Messi's medical bills if he would move to Spain and attend its youth academy, popularly known as La Masia, according to The Guardian.

La Masia is famous for producing world-class home-grown players such as Gerard Pique, Francesc Fabregas, Xavi Hernandez, Andres Iniesta, Victor Valdes, Carles Puyol,

Pedro Rodriguez and Sergio Busquets, according to the Boston Globe.

The treatment worked for the most part and Messi has matured into a 24-year-old legend who has already broken the club's all-time goal-scoring record, according to fcbarcelona.cat.

With physical limitations imposed upon him, Messi is still able to let his natural talent shine through prolonged practice and a dedication to improving his technique.

He uses his diminutive frame to his advantage by controlling his body and maintaining control of the ball until he can play that killer pass or score a goal from an impossible angle.

Messi's success is a testament to what an individual is capable of doing if given a chance to be raised and nurtured in an environment where he/she may succeed.

It does not matter if you don't fit the mold — if you put the time (maybe not 10,000

hours of practice) and the dedication to a vocation, you'll succeed in whatever field you work in the future.

The same lesson goes for students who, if provided with the necessary resources, will become effective and competent members of the workforce, no matter what field he or she intends to work in.

At the same time that Roger Clemens is on trial for allegedly using human growth hormones to further his career, Lionel Messi used his hormone treatment to give himself a chance to play for one of the most prominent European football clubs this decade, according to USA Today.

Messi's experiences are reflective of the new ideal: It's no longer the American Dream, it's the world dream — if you practice, work on honing your skills and are put in a supportive environment then you will most likely produce results not unlike the Argentinian footballer.

# Student loan interest rate increases mean more financial burden



by Rebecca Duran  
Staff Writer

College students considering taking out loans — brace yourselves.

The U.S. Senate is voting today whether to debate a Democratic plan to stop the college loan rates from doubling on July 1, according to an article on Boston Globe's website.

As a society, we're generally taught that education is important to a full life and fulfilling career.

If so, then why is it getting more expensive?

The proposed plan would increase the rate percentage from 3.4 percent to 6.8 percent, according to an article on CBS news.

The decision has turned into a partisan fight, with Democrats and Republicans proposing different plans.

The Democrats' proposal to stop the rates from doubling includes collecting welfare and Social Security payroll taxes from high-earning owners of private corporations, according to CBS news.

Republicans also want to freeze the current loan rate, but compensate for it by removing one of President Obama's preventative health care programs, according to the article.

This proposal would collect \$6 million and stop the interest rates of 7.4 million college students from doubling, according to the article.

SJSU recently hosted a conference with U.S. Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren and SJSU President Mohammad Qayoumi.

Lofgren and Qayoumi both expressed disapproval of the possible increase, which would affect students applying for a Stafford Loan after July 1.

The possibility of students having to deal with more financial burdens is beyond disappointing to me.

When will the government stop putting so much pressure on students to pay up?

Higher education is stressed as important time and time again, yet the government makes it more and more difficult to access.

If it's not one thing, it's another.

The state has a debt problem? Let's increase public university tuition.

The state is still in debt? Let's increase loan rates.

It seems like we can't get a break.

Time and time again I hear about how overwhelmed students are because they work and study.

If loan rates go up, then future applicants will have to deal with a 6.8 percent interest rate that will make college even more expensive.

At this point, I applaud both Republicans and Democrats for at least coming up some alternatives.

It's not good that other programs will be affected, but it's time for everyone to value higher education more.

The government can't keep cutting school budgets and increasing costs to make up for economic shortcomings.

From what I know about other students' opinions, they are getting increasingly disgruntled and pessimistic about school.

If that's how current students feel, then how will future college students view higher education?

I think Congresswoman Lofgren's voice of disapproval is a start to changing things.

The more voices of disapproval, the better.

Certain government members need to see the anger of the masses, and I feel we're lacking a backbone.

"As the economy continues to recover, and at a time when market interest rates are at historic lows, students who rely on loans to finance postsecondary education should not be burdened with additional college debt," according to a White House statement.

If this is a sign that things will change and students won't end up with so much financial burdens, then great — I just hope this line of thought continues.

Any kind of cuts in the state or country are bad, but students can't bear such a large size of the burden.

Looking at the Senate's ideas, health care is a bad area to cut from as well, but maybe they'll come to some kind of agreement or idea that's better.

For right now, I just hope students who want to apply for loans in the future won't have to deal with higher loan interest rates.



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■ REVIEW

# Bassnectar connects with his roots in first homecoming show

by Daniel Herberholz  
Copy and Production Editor

Known for the raucous shows he puts on, disc jockey Bassnectar brought it all for his Cinco de Mayo show Saturday at the Event Center.

On the artist’s website, he credits his stage name to a sticker his friend made that read “Butterfly Beings Drink Bass Nectar.”

Those in attendance on Saturday certainly drank in Bassnectar, who kept the bass turned up for most of his performance.

The crowd itself was heavily populated by skimpily dressed adolescents, with college students and sombrero-wearers mixed in as well.

Rather than play song by song, Bassnectar flowed several together.

The effect was a six-segment show that lasted about two hours.

The DJ opened segments with everything from hardcore drumming to violin strings.

He also had variety in the samples of other artists, which he laced into the show.

Among others, Bassnectar used “Higher and higher and higher” from Passion Pit’s “Little Secrets” and “I have only one burning desire / let me stand next to your fire” from “Fire” by Jimi Hendrix.

Also, he requested the audience to flash lighters and cell phones for a rendition of “Hide

and Seek” by Imogen Heap.

The music itself was only part of the show.

The stage was made up of four video screens, all of which played throughout the performance.

One of the screens projected images around Bassnectar, splitting in sections to go above and below his DJ space.

“From the moment Bassnectar began playing ... the audience was rollicking and cavorting.”

Those screens were used well, at times showing psychedelic patterns, various music videos and flashes of solid colors.

A particularly cool video sequence played when Bassnectar played his latest single, “Vava Voom.”

As the tempo moved from that track to a slower beat, the screens displayed stars coming toward the audience.

When the complete transition came, the stars sped up at a heightening rate, matching the vibes of the music.



An inflatable turtle is tossed around a large crowd during electronic DJ Bassnectar’s concert at the SJSU Event Center on Saturday. Photo by Raphael Kluzniok / Spartan Daily

Another action that matched those vibes came from the crowd.

Bassnectar asked for “the little people to get up on some shoulders” and for bigger people to boost them up.

Waves of people then popped up across the crowd, almost organically with the beat.

It was pretty incredible to watch, particularly considering the call for community and togetherness that Bassnectar attempts to create with his music.

The final segment of the show came as an encore with five minutes before 11 p.m., or what Bassnectar called a crazy curfew.

The encore began with a short trance music orchestra.

A single eye blinking was displayed on the screens, as Bassnectar weaved in audio preaching to “open your eyes.”

The most unexpected part of the show was when the DJ layered his music with the song “Pink Elephants on Parade” from Disney’s “Dumbo.”



Lorin Ashton, widely known as Bassnectar, plays his first set in his hometown of San Jose at the SJSU Event Center on Saturday. Photo by Raphael Kluzniok / Spartan Daily

Meanwhile, the movie sequence played on the screens around him.

From the moment Bassnectar began playing until the encore’s end, the audience was rollicking

and cavorting.

Among the dancing crowd at Bassnectar’s first show in his native San Jose was his mother, Sally Ashton, an English lecturer at SJSU and the poet laureate of Santa Clara

County.

When asked after the performance how his homecoming show went, Bassnectar texted, “Absolutely epic.”

The attendees certainly agreed.

# Get ‘em while they’re HOT

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